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Rosa Street Primary School
Spennymoor
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Reception! We hope you have had a fantastic summer and are looking forward to the exciting year ahead!

We have had an amazing first week in Reception, all of the children have settled in brilliantly! We have enjoyed exploring all different areas of school and getting to know all our new class friends.

Each half term you will receive a letter home explaining what topic we will be covering and the learning opportunities that we will be capturing through all the areas of learning. This half term our topic is 'All about me'. This topic will support the children to continue to find their feet as they find out about themselves and their classmates and explore families, feelings, the body and the senses.

As part of our topic we will also focus on the following:

Communication and Language:

- Retelling/ discussing stories
- Beginning to recognise our name
- Role play – indoor and outdoor/ Home corner / mud kitchen
- Beginning to follow instructions
- Beginning to listen to others during circle time
- Talking about ourselves
- Asking and answering questions

Physical Development:

- Developing fine motor skills and pencil grip
- Dressing and undressing skills such as putting on our own coats.
- PE sessions (exploring/ developing movement skills)

Personal and Social Education:

- Settling into environment
- Understanding our rules and routines
- SEAL topic – New Beginnings
- How we grow and change
- My Family
- Looking at feelings

Literacy:

- Name writing
- Writing initial sounds
- Developing segmenting and blending skills
- Asking questions
- Retelling/ describing stories
- Listening to stories
- Looking at books independently



North East
Better Health
at Work Award
Bronze Award



Numeracy:

- Numbers -counting and recognition
- Shape, space and measures
- 2D Shapes
- Representing numbers in different ways

Understanding the World:

- Investigating our senses
- My family and myself
- Our bodies
- Similarities and differences
- Exploring and investigating Autumn

Expressive arts and design:

- Self portraits
- Colour mixing and using a paintbrush effectively
- Exploring instruments and learning rhymes
- Using a range of construction materials
- Acting out stories
- Role play – indoor and outdoor/ Home corner / mud kitchen

In the Foundation Stage we follow children's interests, so it may be that some of these activities change/do not get completed as we may look at a different aspect of the topic. We are also having a whole school focus on careers this year. This half term Reception we will be looking at the careers involved within construction and building, focusing on different career roles within our outdoor role play area, and artists. If any parents would like to visit Reception to talk about their job and what they do, we would love to hear from you.

In the next couple of weeks, when we begin our phonics and maths lessons, homework will be sent out on a Friday and should be completed and sent back into school by the following Thursday. This will be based on the work that we have done in school that week and will help your child to revisit and consolidate their learning. It's also a great way for you to keep up-to-date with the objectives that we have been covering. Reading books will also be sent out. A letter detailing our reading scheme and our reading routines and expectations will be sent out alongside the first book.

As part of our curriculum, our P.E sessions are on a Monday and Friday afternoon, however kits must be in school throughout the week as we have a flexible curriculum. P.E kits consist of shorts, t-shirt and plimsolls and will stay in school for the first half term as a lot of our P.E time will be focusing on getting changed and following routines.

The children have all been given a school water bottle which they can access at all times during the school day, therefore don't need any drinks brought in from home. They also have daily milk and snack.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to discuss any aspect of the curriculum further, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to working with you over the coming year to make your child's time at school as enjoyable and successful as possible.

Yours sincerely
Miss Darke and Mrs Anderson